

# ALASKA POTATO STOCKS

Alaska Division of Agriculture  
Alaska Cooperative Extension  
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ALASKA  
AGRICULTURAL  
STATISTICS SERVICE

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National Agricultural Statistics Service  
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As of June 1, 2006

All potato stocks (bin-run) in **Alaska** on June 1, 2006 totaled 32,000 cwt, down from the 43,000 cwt on hand a year ago. The five-year average stocks on hand June 1 is 30,800 cwt. Disappearance of potatoes since the start of the harvest to June 1 totaled 134,000 cwt. Last year, disappearance to June 1 was also 134,000 cwt. Disappearance since May 1 was 29,000 cwt compared with 27,000 cwt a year ago and the five year average of almost 28,000 cwt.

The disappearance since October 1 reflects sales, shrinkage and waste, as well as losses caused after harvest by late blight and frost damage. In 2005 late blight was identified in fields in the Mat-Su Valley. Losses in the field due to late blight ranged from severe to mild. Losses post-harvest are included in the disappearance. In 2004 there was a small loss of potatoes due to frost damage, while in 2003 there was significant loss due to frost damage that is reflected in the disappearance.

Stocks are defined as the quantity (whether sold or not) remaining in storage for all purposes and uses, including seed potatoes that are not yet moved, and shrinkage, waste, and other losses that occur after the date of each report. Data are only being published at the state level this year due to confidentiality requirements.

The **15 Major Potato States** held 40.0 million cwt of potatoes in storage June 1, 2006, down 23 percent from last year and 13 percent below June 1, 2004, for comparable States. Ohio and Pennsylvania were dropped from the potato stocks program starting with the 2005 storage season. Potatoes in storage account for 11 percent of the 2005 fall storage States' production, down 2 percentage points from last year.

Disappearance of 333 million cwt from the start of harvest to June 1, is down 4 percent from last year for comparable States. Shrink and loss, at 24.7 million cwt, is down 23 percent from last year for comparable States.

Processors have used 167 million cwt of 2005 crop potatoes so far this season, down 3 percent from a year ago and 4 percent below 2 years ago. Idaho and Malheur County, Oregon, total processing decreased 2 percent from a year ago and Washington and the rest of Oregon total processing dropped 3 percent from last season. Dehydrating usage accounts for 33.8 million cwt of the total processing, down 12 percent from last year and 14 percent below the same date in 2004.

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## POTATO STOCKS - JUNE 1, 2006

	STOCKS						PRODUCTION	June 1 Stocks as Percent of Production
	JUN 1	MAY 1	APR 1	MAR 1	FEB 1	JAN 1		
	----- 1,000 Cwt -----							- - Percent - -
2006	32.0	61.0	80.0	93.0	106.0	118.0	166.0	19%
2005	43.0	70.0	93.0	106.0	114.0	126.0	177.0	24%
2004	11.0	32.0	52.0	62.0	71.0	90.0	168.0	7%

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